

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 294067
ORIGIN HA-05

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DRAFTED BY: HA:FASIEVERTS

APPROVED BY: HA:FASIEVERTS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUQMQG/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE 2700

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 294067

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 11762 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO USUN NEW
YORK 08 DEC 77

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 11762

IO FOR ASST SECRETARY MAYNES AND D/HA SIEVERTS FROM CHARGE
FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY AT OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, UNGA, CY, TU

SUBJECT: ICRC DECISION ON PARTICIPATION IN COMMITTEE ON
MISSING PERSONS IN CYPRUS

REF: GENEVA 11716

1. AT ITS MEETING THIS MORNING (DECEMBER 8), THE EXECU-
TIVE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED
CROSS (ICRC) REVIEWED OUR REPRESENTATIONS REPORTED REFTEL
AND THE CLARIFICATION OF POINTS A THROUGH D SUBSEQUENTLY
MADE IN THE SIEVERTS-HOCKE TELCON. THE OUTCOME OF THIS
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MORNING'S DISCUSSION WAS A DECISION THAT, ONCE THE ICRC
HAD BEEN FORMALLY REQUESTED TO PARTICIPATE -- A REQUEST
WHICH THE ICRC WANTS TO BE MADE BY HAVING THE OTHER TWO
PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT SUBMIT TO THE NEW YORK OFFICE OF
THE ICRC A JOINTLY INITIALED COPY OF THEIR AGREEMENT --
THE ICRC WOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC STATEMENT:
QUOTE THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS EXAMINED THE REQUEST

SUBMITTED TO THE ICRC BY THE TWO PARTIES TO THE
CONFLICT IN CYPRUS. THE ICRC IS WILLING TO LEND ITS
ASSISTANCE TO THE TWO PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED IN
ORDER TO ENABLE THEM TO SEEK A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM
AND TO ENDEAVOR TO ESTABLISH THE FATE OF PERSONS
POSTED AS MISSING ON CYPRUS. UNQUOTE

2. THIS PUBLIC STATEMENT WOULD BE FOLLOWED-UP BY A LETTER
FROM THE ICRC TO THE OTHER TWO PARTIES FORMALLY ACCEPTING
THEIR REQUEST THAT THE ICRC PARTICIPATE. FOR YOUR IN-
FORMATION ONLY THIS LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE WOULD STRESS:
(A) THE HUMANITARIAN CHARACTER OF ICRC'S PARTICIPATION;
(B) THE LEGAL BASIS ON WHICH THE ICRC INTENDS TO PARTI-
CIPATE (PROBABLY CITING THE RELEVANT ARTICLES OF THE
GENEVA CONVENTION); (C) THE INTENTION OF THE ICRC TO
REVIEW THE RESULTS OBTAINED BY THE COMMITTEE AT THE END
OF THE FIRST SIX MONTHS AND, THEREAFTER, ON A REGULAR
BASIS -- PROBABLY EVERY THREE MONTHS; AND (D) THE NEED TO
WORK OUT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL COSTS TO THE
ICRC OF ITS PARTICIPATION. END FYI.

3. IN THE LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING SCENARIO, THE ICRC WANTS
THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE CURRENT TEXT OF THE MISSING
PERSONS AGREEMENT (WHICH SAYS THAT THE ICRC WOULD ANNOUNCE
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE) DELETED FROM THE TEXT.

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4. ACTION REQUESTED: IN THE LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING, WE
BELIEVE IT IS URGENT THAT WE BE ABLE TO CONFIRM TO THE
ICRC THAT WE AND ALL OTHER PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT ARE
AGREED ON THE FOREGOING SCENARIO WHICH WE RECAPITULATE AS
FOLLOWS:

A. THE DRAFT TEXT IS CHANGED TO DELETE PARAGRAPH 14
BEFORE FINALLY BEING AGREED TO.

B. THE OTHER TWO PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT SUBMIT TO THE
NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE ICRC A JOINTLY INITIALED COPY OF
THE AGREEMENT.

C. THE ICRC ISSUES THE PUBLIC STATEMENT QUOTED ABOVE.

D. THE ICRC RESPONDS WITH LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE.
SORENENSON

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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